THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALWA) : (a) The India Meteorological Department (IMD) is the nodal agency for providing cyclone warnings in India. Cyclone warnings are provided by IMD's six Cyclone Warning Centres (Calcutta, Bhubaneshwar, Vishakhapatnam, Madras, Bombay and Ahmedabad) by monitoring the movement of the cyclones with the help of conventional observations, high power cyclone detection radars INSAT Satellite and then forecasting the path and intensity of cyclones. The cyclone warnings are provided in two stages. In the first stage, a "Cyclone Alert" is issued 48 hours in advance of commencement of adverse weather along the coast. In the second stage, a "Cyclone Warning" is issued 24 hours in advance of the Cyclone's anticipated landfall. The Ports are warned by means of a Special Port warning service.

Flood warnings are provided by the Central Water Commission (CWC) of the Ministry of Water Resources through a network of 157 flood forecasting stations on various interstate rivers of the country. Warning time at the existing stations varies from Station to Station between 6 hours and 36 hours.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Meteorological Observational network especially in the coastal areas, is being strengthened and the INSAT based Disaster Warning System (DWS) network at present available on Andhra Pradesh and Tamilnadu Coasts is being expanded.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE CRUNCH IN PUBLIC SECTOR UNDERTAKINGS

244 SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of Central Public Sector Undertakings are in trouble on account of non-availability of foreign exchange,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said Public Sector Undertakings may not get foreign supplies due to foreign exchange crunch; to meet the contractual obligations; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P.K THUNGON) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

MANUFACTURE OF NARCOTIC FORMULATIONS

245. SHRI PRAKASH BAPU VASANTRAO PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to allow the manufacture of narcotic formulations used for anaesthetic purpose in order to save a huge amount of foreign exchange, and

(b) if so, the time by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN) :

(a) and (b) As and when such a request is received it will be considered on merits and subject to compliance of the provisions of various Acts like the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 etc.

CORRUPTION AND CRIMINAL CHARGES AGAINST PUBLIC SERVANTS

246. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY .

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Bureau of investigation has booked a number of public